

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the present application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remains under examination in the application are presented below. The claims are presented in ascending order and each includes one status identifier. Those claims not cancelled or withdrawn but amended by the current amendment utilize the following notations for amendment: 1. deleted matter is shown by strikethrough for six or more characters and double brackets for five or less characters; and 2. added matter is shown by underlining.

1. (Previously Presented) A method of copy protecting a program to be installed on a computer system, said computer system including a computing section and a copy protection unit, said method comprising:

determining a decision section of the program, which decision section, during execution of the program as a function of a current running state of the program, defines information influencing further course of the program; and

converting the decision section of the program to produce a copy-protected version of the program, wherein converting comprises:

providing code in the copy-protected version of the program, wherein said code is executable exclusively in the copy protection unit and exclusively during execution of the copy-protected version of the program in the computing section, and wherein said code includes data and a processing regulation applicable to the data for execution of the decision section of the program; and

providing a program instruction in the copy-protected version of the program, the program instruction being configured such that, during execution of the copy-protected version of the program in the computing section, the copy protection unit is called and the code is transferred to the copy protection unit for execution therein.

2. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said code effects a comparison of two data values and a definition of the information as a function of a result of said comparison when the code is executed.

3. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said information comprises a program address at which execution of the program is resumed.

4-6. Cancelled.

7. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the data and the processing regulation are encoded and are transferred to the copy protection unit in encoded form.

8. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the code in the copy protection unit is executed in a protected area of the computer system, wherein the protected area is closed to the rest of the computer system.

9. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein determining a decision section of the program further comprises determining the decision section according to an instruction sequence of the decision section in the program.

10. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising repeating the determining a decision section of the program and converting the decision section to determine and convert a plurality of decision sections, wherein if two similar decision sections are determined, the similar decision sections are converted by different codes in the converting.

11. (Currently Amended) A ~~computer device~~ system for adding copy protection to a program to be installed on a computer system that includes a computing section and a copy protection unit, the ~~device~~ system comprising:

~~a determining module that determines~~ computing device programmed to determine a decision section of the program, which decision section, during execution of the program as a

function of a current running state of the program, defines information influencing further course of the program; and ~~is defined during execution of~~

~~a converting module that produces~~ wherein the computing device is further programmed to produce a copy-protected version of the program, the ~~converting module~~ computer device being configured to convert the decision section of the program into a program instruction portion and a code portion of the copy-protected version of the program;

wherein the code portion is executable exclusively in the copy protection unit and exclusively during execution of the copy-protected version of the program in the computing section, and wherein the code includes data and a processing regulation applicable to the data for execution of the decision section of the program; and

wherein the program instruction portion is configured such that, during execution of the copy-protected version of the program in the computing section, the copy protection unit is called and the code is transferred to the copy protection unit for execution therein.

12. (Currently Amended) The ~~device-system~~ as claimed in claim 11, wherein said code effects a comparison of two data values and a definition of the information as a function of a result of said comparison.

13. (Currently Amended) The ~~device-system~~ as claimed in claim 11, wherein said information comprises a program address at which execution of the program is resumed.

14-16. Cancelled.

17. (Currently Amended) The ~~device-system~~ as claimed in claim 11, wherein the data and the processing regulation are encoded and are transferred to the copy protection unit in encoded form.

18. (Currently Amended) The ~~device-system~~ as claimed in claim 11, wherein the code in the copy protection unit is executed in a protected area of the computer system, wherein the protected area is closed to the rest of the computer system.

19. (Currently Amended) The ~~device-system~~ as claimed in claim 11, wherein the decision section is determined according to an instruction sequence of the decision section in the program.

20. (Currently Amended) The ~~device-system~~ as claimed in claim 11, wherein a plurality of decision sections are determined and converted, and wherein if two similar decision sections are determined, the similar decision sections are converted by different codes.

21. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium comprising a program for adding a copy protection to a preexisting program to be installed on a computer system that includes a computing section and a copy protection process, said computer program comprising:

a determining section that, when executed on a computing device, causes the computing device to determine a decision section of the preexisting program, which decision section, during execution of the preexisting program as a function of a current running state thereof, defines information influencing the further course of the preexisting program; and

a converting section that, when executed on the computing device, causes the computing device to produce a copy-protected version of the preexisting program, the converting section

being configured to cause the computing device to convert the decision section into a program instruction portion and a code portion of the copy-protected version of the program;

wherein the code portion is executable exclusively in the copy protection process and exclusively during execution of the copy-protected version of the preexisting program in the computing section, and wherein the code includes data and a processing regulation applicable to the data for execution of the decision section of the preexisting program; and

wherein the program instruction portion is configured such that, during execution of the copy-protected version of the preexisting program in the computing section, the copy protection process is called and the code is transferred to the copy protection process for execution therein.

22. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable storage medium as claimed in claim 21, wherein said code effects a comparison of two data values and a definition of the information as a function of a result of said comparison.

23. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable storage medium as claimed in claim 21, wherein said information comprises a preexisting program address as which execution of the preexisting program is resumed.

24. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable storage medium as claimed in claim 21, wherein the determining section further comprises a program instruction that, when executed, calls the preexisting program and transfers the code to the copy protection process:

25. Cancelled.

26. Cancelled.

27. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable storage medium as claimed in claim 25, wherein the data and the processing regulation are encoded and are transferred to the computer program in encoded form.

28. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable storage medium as claimed in claim 21, wherein the code in the copy protection process is executed in a protected area of the computer system, wherein the protected area is closed to the rest of the computer system.

29. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable storage medium as claimed in claim 21, wherein the decision section is determined according to an instruction sequence of the decision section in the preexisting program.

30. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable storage medium as claimed in claim 21, wherein a plurality of decision sections are determined and converted, and wherein if two similar decision sections are determined, the similar decision sections are converted by different codes.